

REMARKS

Applicants request consideration on the merits of the above-referenced patent application.

SPECIFICATION

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.78 and MPEP §202.01, Applicants have amended the specification to insert a paragraph identifying the patent applications to which this patent application claims priority. Applicants request that the paragraph be entered into this patent application.

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS


Claims 3-4, 6, 8-11, 13-15, 17 and 20 have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. For the Examiner's reference, the claim identifiers "Original" have been used to indicate the claims as filed under PCT Article 19, and thus the Listing of Claims indicates the differences between the claims as filed under PCT Article 19 and the amended claims submitted herewith. Applicants submit that the amendments do not introduce new matter and respectfully request entry thereof.

CONCLUSION

If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (314) 726-7524.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 04 MAY 06

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